

## Obama and evangelist Billy Graham share a prayer

By PHILIP ELLIOTT  
and MIKE BAKER,

Associated Press Writers

MONTREAT, N.C.

— President Barack Obama made a pilgrimage Sunday to Billy Graham's mountainside home, concluding his North Carolina vacation with his first meeting with the ailing evangelist who has counseled commanders in chief since Dwight Eisenhower.

*Continued on Next Page*



In this image released by the White House, President Barack Obama meets with Billy Graham, 91, at his mountainside home in Montreat, N.C., Sunday, April 25, 2010. Obama concluded his North Carolina vacation with his first meeting of the ailing evangelist, who has counseled commanders in chief since Dwight Eisenhower

*(AP Photo/The White House, Pete Souza)*

## Al-Qaida in Iraq confirms deaths of top 2 figures

By SINAN SALAHEDDIN,  
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD — An al-Qaida front group in Iraq on Sunday confirmed the killing of its two top leaders but vowed to keep up the fight despite claims by U.S. and Iraqi officials that the deaths could be a devastating blow to the terror network.

The defiance came in a statement released a week after the group's leaders — Abu Omar al-Baghdadi and Abu Ayyub al-Masri — were killed in a raid by Iraqi and U.S. security forces on their safe house near Tikrit, north of Baghdad.

"After a long journey filled with sacrifices and fighting falsehood and its representatives, two knights have dismounted to join the group of martyrs," the statement said. "We announce that the Muslim nation has lost two of the leaders of jihad, and two of its men, who are only known as heroes on the path of jihad."

The four-page statement by the Islamic State of Iraq was posted on a militant website early Sunday.

It concluded: "The war is still ongoing, and the favorable outcome will be for the pious."

*Continued on Page 7*

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**People offer flowers as they pay their respects.**



People offer flowers as they pay their respects near portraits of deceased sailors from the sunken naval corvette Cheonan, during a memorial service at Seoul City Hall Plaza April 25, 2010. Fifty-eight crew members were rescued but forty dead bodies were found and six sailors are missing after the naval corvette blew apart and sank on March 26 near the maritime border with the North, local media reported.

REUTERS/Jo Yong-Hak

*Read Page 6*

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Yazoo City, Miss., residents walk past a tornado destroyed home Sunday, April 25, 2010. Many residents spent the better part of the day cleaning up and trying to salvage possessions in the homes and businesses damaged by Saturday's tornado.

*(AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)*

## At least 10 people killed when tornado hits Mississippi

*Read more on Page 3*



FILE - In this Wednesday April 21, 2010 file photo, an Iraqi military helicopter flies over the site of a joint U.S.-Iraqi raid that reportedly killed Abu Omar al-Baghdadi and Abu Ayyub al-Masri, two top-ranking al-Qaida figures, about six miles (10 kilometers) southwest of Tikrit. An al-Qaida front group in Iraq has declared in a statement posted on the Internet that its two top figures have been killed. The statement Sunday April 25, 2010, provided the first confirmation from the terror network of the Iraqi and U.S. governments' claim April 19 that the two men were killed in a joint operation while hiding at a safehouse near the city of Tikrit, north of Baghdad. « Read less

*(AP Photo/Karim Kadim, File)*

**new**

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Franklin Graham speaks during a tour of the Billy Graham Library before a dedication service on the campus of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in Charlotte, North Carolina, May 31, 2007 .... Read more »

REUTERS/Chris Keane/Files

**OBAMA - GRAHAM**

*Continued from Front Page*

The 48-year-old president made the short drive to Montreat from Asheville, where he spent the weekend, to see the 91-year-old Graham and son Franklin, also an evangelist. During the visit, which lasted about 30 minutes and included aides and advisers to both men, Obama had a private prayer and conversation with Billy Graham. The evangelist gave Obama two Bibles, one for him and one for the first

lady, Graham spokesman Larry Ross said. Obama was “extraordinarily gratified that he took the time to meet with him,” White House spokesman Bill Burton said. Franklin Graham said his father and Obama did most of the talking. They reminisced about their roots in Chicago — Graham went to Wheaton College and began some of his ministry in the region; Obama moved to Chicago after college and began his political career there. And they talked

about golf. “The conversation was very cordial, very nice,” the younger Graham said. “When the president got ready to leave, the president prayed for my father, my father prayed for him.” Graham said his father prayed for the nation and that God would give Obama wisdom in his decisions. The president prayed to thank God for Billy Graham’s life, Franklin Graham said. Obama confided, like other presidents before him, how lonely, demanding and humbling the presidency can be, Ross said. “That is a discussion that Mr. Graham has had with previous presidents who realize not only the demands but the loneliness of the job. And they’re humbled by that,” Ross said. “The only way one can do (the job) properly is to draw on spiritual resources.” Billy Graham has been ailing for years, yet his son said the frail evangelist appeared as strong as ever during the conversation with Obama. “It’s like my father rises to the

occasion,” he said. Afterward, Obama departed for a memorial service in West Virginia for the 29 coal miners killed in an explosion on April 5. When Obama last spoke with Billy Graham, in a telephone call in November on Graham’s birthday, they said they would try to get together as soon as possible, Burton said. “The president wanted to meet with Rev. Graham for a while,” Burton told reporters who were kept outside the Graham compound gate. “They were going to meet during the campaign when he was here for debate prep.” Graham’s health prevented that October 2008 meeting from taking place while Obama’s campaign holed up at a resort to practice debate answers. Burton said Graham was in good enough health to take the meeting on Sunday, which came up when Obama phoned Graham to wish him a happy birthday last year. Asked about Graham’s health, Burton said: “He’s still as sharp as he ever was.” Mark DeMoss, a spokesman for the Grahams, said the

White House requested the meeting several days ago. He noted that the meeting had been tentative, given the president’s schedule and Billy Graham’s unpredictable health. Billy Graham’s last crusade was in 2005, in New York. Since his wife’s death nearly three years ago, he has spent most of his time at his home. Public appearances have been rare, and his hearing and eyesight are failing. Ross said Obama’s visit was the first time a sitting president has met with Graham at his home. Franklin Graham has been in the news recently, with the Army rescinding an invitation for him to speak at a Pentagon prayer service, citing what it said were his inappropriate comments about Islam. Franklin Graham said he and Obama spoke briefly about the Pentagon spat, with the younger Graham saying that activists with an agenda were trying to pull all religion out of the military. “I wanted to make him aware of that,” Franklin Graham said. “He said he would look into it.” □

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## At least 10 people killed when tornado hits Mississippi

By **HOLBROOK MOHR**  
and **JAY REEVES**,

Associated Press Writers

YAZOO CITY, Miss. — One prayed to God under a communion table as his church was blown to pieces around him.

Another was on the phone with a meteorologist when the tornado threw him against a cinderblock wall that held just long enough to save his life. A coroner nearly became a victim himself when the twister flipped his truck four times; later he went out in his hospital gown to help identify bodies.

At least 10 people were killed when the tornado ripped through the rural Mississippi countryside, but the stories told by survivors on Sunday show how much higher the toll could have been.

Dale Thrasher, 60, had been alone in Hillcrest Baptist Church when the tornado hit Saturday, ripping away wood and metal until all that was left was rubble, Thrasher and the table he had climbed under as he prayed for protection. "The whole building caved in," he said. "But me and that table were still there."

Sunday was sunny and breezy as Thrasher and other members of the Yazoo City church dug through the debris and pulled out a few chairs and other items. One found a hymnal opened to the song, "Till the Storm Passes By."

Hundreds of homes also were damaged in the storm, which carved a path of devastation from the Louisiana line to east-central Mississippi, and at least three dozen people were hurt. Rescuers spread out Sunday to find anyone who might

be trapped, while survivors returned to demolished homes to salvage what they could and bulldoze the rubble.

"This tornado was enormous," said Gov. Haley Barbour, who grew up in Yazoo County, a county of about 28,000 people known for blues, catfish and cotton. The twister wreaked "utter obliteration" among the picturesque hills rising from the flat Mississippi Delta, the governor said.

Tornadoes also were reported in Louisiana, Arkansas and Alabama. The storm system tracked northeastward, downing trees in northwest Georgia early Sunday before moving offshore.

Mississippi's Choctaw County suffered the most confirmed deaths: five, including a baby and two other children. On Sunday the air there was filled with the buzz of chain saws, the rumbling of tractors and the scent of splintered pine trees.

Utility workers in cherry-pickers hovered over police officers directing traffic on a two-lane highway busy with relief workers and volunteers arriving to help.

All that remained of Sullivan's Crossroads Grocery was a pile of cinderblocks and some jars of pickled eggs and pigs' feet. But owner Ron Sullivan, his wife and four other people rode out the storm there and suffered only some cuts and bruises. Sullivan had been on the phone, describing the weather conditions to a meteorologist, when the line went dead and the twister hit, tearing the wooden roof off the store and hurling Sullivan into a cinderblock wall.

"I was levitated and flew 15

feet over there to the back wall," he said. "The only reason I wasn't killed was the wall was still there. After I hit it, it collapsed." A steel fuel storage tank, about 10 feet long, was uprooted by the twister and rolled into the store, coming to rest against a freezer. Hiding on the other side of the freezer was Sullivan's wife. Across the street, the home of the parents of Houston Astros pitcher Roy Oswalt was reduced to rubble by the tornado. Oswalt himself was driving a bucket loader Sunday, trying to knock down a damaged tree on the property.

(AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

His father, Billy, had been out hunting when the storm hit, and his mother, Jean, hunkered down in a back room of the house with the family's dog. "She got our little dog and covered up and she's OK," Billy Oswalt said.

The tornado went on to cut about a 10-mile path through Choctaw County, hacking off the tops of pine trees about eight feet above the ground before slamming into three mobile homes. □



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# Obama: W.Va. miners died in pursuit of better life



**FILE** - In this April 4, 2010 file photo, West Virginia State Police direct traffic at the entrance to Massey Energy's Upper Big Branch Coal Mine in Montcoal, W.Va. 29 coal miners were killed in the April 5 explosion. Federal officials ignored warnings three years ago that new mine safety regulations would trigger a surge of new legal cases that could jeopardize the goal of making mines safer.

(AP Photo/Jeff Gentner, File)

By PHILIP ELLIOTT,  
 Associated Press Writer

BECKLEY, W.Va. — They lived and they died pursuing the American dream, working in dangerous conditions underground to help keep the lights on across the country.

President Barack Obama on Sunday offered words of praise for victims of the worst mining disaster in a generation, words of solace for their families and words of hope to miners that he will make their jobs safer.

Obama planned to speak at a memorial service Sunday afternoon for the 29 victims of the April 5 explosion at the mine in Montcoal, about 30 miles northwest, owned by Massey Energy Co. It was the worst mining disaster in a generation.

Investigators have detected high levels of two potentially explosive gases inside the Upper Big Branch mine and say it could be a month before they can get inside to determine what caused the blast.

Obama has ordered a broad review of coal mines with poor safety records and urged federal officials to strengthen laws "so riddled with loopholes that they allow unsafe conditions to continue."

In excerpts of Obama's remarks released by the White House while the president vacationed in North Carolina, he pledged changes to an industry that provides valuable jobs in once-thriving mine country and a needed source of energy.

"We cannot bring back the 29 men we lost. They are with the Lord now," Obama said. "Our task, here on Earth, is to save lives from being lost in another such tragedy. To do what must be done, individually and collectively, to assure safe conditions underground."

Obama, who traveled to West Virginia after spending the weekend in North Carolina, first planned to meet with relatives of the miners killed.

Many people who gathered for the service wore black ribbons with gold shovels and pick axes; some had one coal miners' reflective clothing. Don Blankenship, chief executive of Massey Energy, mingled with the crowd before taking his seat near the back of the floor in the Beckley-Raleigh Convention Center.

Jean Cook of Pineville displayed a new tattoo on the back of her right shoulder in honor of her 21-year-old nephew, Adam Morgan, who died in the mine explosion. Cook said she was reluctant to attend the memorial because she said it would take her days to recover.

"Did I want to? Emotionally, no," she said.

"All this has done a toll on my nerves. I just constantly cry. I don't think there's anything anybody can say."

Federal regulators have identified highly explosive methane gas, coal dust or a mixture of the two as the likely cause of the blast, but the ignition source is unknown.

A preliminary report suggests the blast may have been caused by a preventable buildup of methane gas mixing with coal dust. The report from Labor Secretary Hilda Solis and mine safety officials also raised concerns about a major increase in safety violations at the mine. The report said the rate of serious violations in 2009 that required mine workers to leave while immediate repairs were made was nearly 19 times the national rate.

"In short, this was a mine with a significant history of safety issues, a mine operated by a company with a history of violations, and a mine and company that (the Mine Safety and Health Administration) was watching closely," the report said.

While Obama acknowledged that the government was partly at fault for the disaster, he laid most of the blame for the latest accident on the mine's owner. "Safety violators like Massey have still been able to find ways to put their bottom line before the safety of their workers — filing endless appeals instead of paying fines and fixing safety problems," Obama said on April 15.

Massey Energy called Obama's remarks "regrettable" and defended its safety record. Ahead of the service, which West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin and Vice President Joe Biden also planned to attend, Obama cited the sacrifices miners make in their efforts to build a better life for their families.

"All the hard work. All the hardship. All the time spent underground. It was all for their families," Obama said. "For a car in the driveway. For a roof overhead. For a chance to give their kids opportunities they never knew; and enjoy retirement with their wives. It was all in the hopes of something better."

"These miners lived — as they died — in pursuit of the American dream."

In his remarks, Obama said letters had poured into the White House after the April 5 disaster. "They ask me to keep our miners in my thoughts. Never forget, they say, miners keep America's lights on. Then, they make a simple plea: Don't let this happen again."

The nation's top mine safety official is expected to face tough questions Tuesday at the Senate's first hearing on the explosion. □

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# Calif. case spotlights dysfunctional death penalty

By PAUL ELIAS,

Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Chelsea King's parents reluctantly agreed to a sentence of life in prison for their daughter's rapist and killer, calling the death penalty in California "an empty promise."

The Kings join a growing list of victims' families, law enforcement officials and other capital punishment proponents who have grown disillusioned with California's death penalty.

The decision to forego capital punishment for registered sex offender John Gardner, who this month admitted killing Chelsea King and another teen girl, has once again thrust the gridlocked system into the spotlight.

Five more inmates joined California's death row this year, pushing the population past a record 700 inmates, by far the nation's largest.

Florida is second with 394 inmates on death row, and Texas is third with 333, but both of those states regularly carry out executions.

Legal challenges over how lethal injections are administered to condemned prisoners in California have halted executions in the state since Clarence Ray Allen was put to death Jan. 17, 2006. The lawsuits are far from being resolved, and most observers believe it could be years before another execution takes place at San Quentin Prison.

Even before the suspension, only 13 condemned inmates have been executed from

the time capital punishment resumed in the state in 1977 until February 2006, when U.S. District Court Jeremy Fogel halted executions until prison officials revamped their lethal injection process.

After a lengthy regulatory review, the Department of Corrections is expected to issue the long-awaited new protocols this week.

Still, state and federal judges must approve the new regulations before executions can resume — and lawyers challenging the death penalty promise to vigorously attack the new protocols as inadequate.

California Chief Justice Ron George told the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice that the state's capital punishment system is "dysfunctional."

Death penalty appeals account for 25 percent of the high

court's workload, he has said.

"Most of us realize a death sentence at this time is a hollow promise in California," San Diego District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis said at the news conference with the King family announcing that Gardner would plead guilty in exchange for a life sentence.

Dumanis said in a telephone interview Thursday that she still files death penalty cases when appropriate "because it's the law," but the state's glacial execution rate is frustrating to victims' families.

"They have to live with it every day," she said.

In voicing frustration with capital punishment, these supporters of the penalty are lending momentum to a renewed push by death penalty foes to abolish executions in California.

With the state's financial

woes as a backdrop, the foes have launched a new assault on the death penalty, saying California cannot afford it.

The state Legislature created the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice to investigate the chronic problems with the state's death penalty. The commission concluded that the state needed to spend more money, mostly on hiring more defense attorneys to hasten the automatic appeal process.

The commission, led by former California Attorney General John Van de Kamp, released a study in 2008 concluding that

capital cases cost the state an additional \$125 million a year to administer. In response to a court order, the Department of Corrections spent \$400 million building a new death chamber and death row.

"We are spending money on a broken death penalty," said Natasha Minsker, an American Civil Liberties Union lawyer who won the Abolitionist of the Year award from the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty in 2008.

"We aren't spending money on unsolved murders and other crimes. These are the trade-offs we are making." □

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# Torpedo blast likely sank warship: SKorea minister

By HYUNG-JIN KIM,  
Associated Press Writer

SEOUL, South Korea — An explosion caused by a torpedo likely tore apart and sank a South Korean warship near the North Korean border, Seoul's defense minister said Sunday, while declining to assign blame for the blast as suspicion increasingly falls on Pyongyang.

Defense Minister Kim Tae-young said an underwater explosion appeared to have ripped apart the vessel, and a torpedo blast seemed the most likely cause. Investigators who examined salvaged wreckage separately announced Sunday that a close-range, external explosion likely sank it.

"Basically, I think the bubble jet effect caused by a heavy torpedo is the most likely" cause, Kim told reporters. The bubble jet effect refers to the rapidly expanding bubble an underwater blast creates and the subsequent destructive column of water unleashed. Kim, however, did not speculate on who may have fired the weapon and said an investigation was ongoing and it's still too early to determine the cause.

Soon after the disaster, Kim told lawmakers that a North

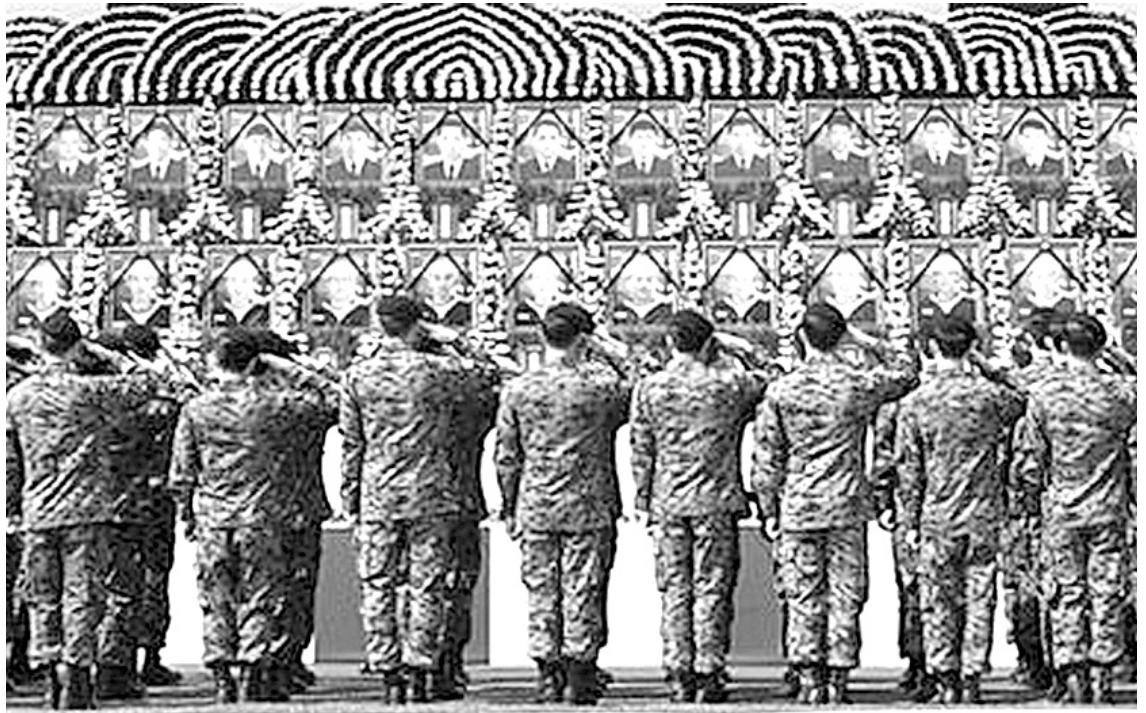
Korean torpedo was one of the likely scenarios, but the government has been careful not to blame the North outright, and Pyongyang has denied its involvement.

As investigations have pointed to an external explosion as the cause of the sinking, however, suspicion of the North has grown, given the country's history of provocation and attacks on the South.

The Cheonan was on a routine patrol on March 26 when the unexplained explosion split it in two in one of South Korea's worst naval disasters. Forty bodies have been recovered so far, but six crew members are still unaccounted for and are presumed dead.

The site of the sinking is near where the rival Koreas fought three times since 1999, most recently a November clash that left one North Korean soldier dead and three others wounded. The two Koreas are still technically at war because their 1950-53 Korean War ended in a truce, not a peace treaty.

Also Sunday, investigators said a preliminary investigation of the front part of the 1,200-ton ship — retrieved the day before — pointed to an external explosion. □



Members of the South Korean special warfare command salute in front of the portraits of the deceased sailors from the sunken South Korean naval ship Cheonan during a memorial service at Seoul City Hall Plaza in South Korea, Sunday, April 25, 2010. The defense minister says that a torpedo attack likely has torn apart and sank a South Korean warship that went down near the tense border with North Korea last month.

(AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)

## Austrian president bests rightist to win election

By VERONIKA OLEKSYN,  
Associated Press Writer

VIENNA — Austria's president easily secured a second term Sunday, deflecting a challenge by a far-right politician who had denounced the country's anti-Nazi law.

Incumbent Heinz Fischer, a Social Democrat, won 78.9 percent of the vote, trouncing his main rival, Barbara Rosenkranz of the anti-foreigner and anti-European Union Freedom Party, who netted 15.6 percent. Rudolf Gehring of the tiny Austrian Christian Party trailed with 5.4 percent.

Turnout was a mere 49.2 percent.

The results — which do not include mail-in ballots — were announced by Interior Minister Maria Fekter.

"I am extremely happy and thank the Austrian population for having so much confidence in me," Fischer said in an initial reaction broadcast live on public television.

Rosenkranz, meanwhile, claimed she and her family had been victims of a "witch hunt" throughout the campaign.

Polls had predicted Fischer would win another six-year term and the vote was being watched as a measure of far-right sentiment in a country at times still marred by its connection to the Holocaust.

Fischer, 71, is known for caution and diplomacy.

He served as science minister and held various leadership positions in his party and in parliament before initially winning the presidency on April 25, 2004.

Rosenkranz, in contrast, caused controversy by suggesting that Austria's law banning the glorification of the Nazis was not in line with the constitution and hindered freedom of expression. But she recently declared formal support for the law.

She also came under fire recently for a vague response to a question about Nazi gas chambers, but has since clearly acknowledged their existence.

The 51-year-old mother of 10, whose husband used to be part of a far-right political party that was banned for being too radical, said her comments on the country's anti-Nazi law were misinterpreted by her critics and the media.

"Of course I condemn the monstrous atrocities — I've never done anything else," Rosenkranz told The AP in reference to the mass killings of Jews and others by the Nazis.

Ferdinand Karlhofer, head of the University of Innsbruck's political science department, said the results were a blow to the Freedom Party, which had hoped to position itself for key local elections in the Austrian capital this fall.

"The FPÖ (Freedom Party) is coming out of this election with hefty minus points," Karlhofer said in a telephone interview.

Freedom Party chief Heinz-Christian Strache, who wants to become the mayor of Vienna, initially predicted that Rosenkranz would win up to 35 percent of the vote but later distanced himself from her. □



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## AL-QAIDA

### Continued from Front Page

The Islamic State of Iraq is an offshoot of al-Qaida in Iraq. Al-Baghdadi was its self-described leader and was so elusive that at times U.S. officials questioned whether he was a real person or merely a composite of a terrorist to give an Iraqi face to an organization led primarily by foreigners. Al-Masri, a weapons expert who was trained in al-Qaida camps in Afghanistan in the late 1990s, was the shadowy national leader of al-Qaida in Iraq. Their deaths were triumphantly announced last Monday by Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. U.S. Vice President Joe Biden called the killings a "potentially devastating blow" to al-Qaida in Iraq. But four days later, officials believe al-Qaida struck back, bombing mosques, shops and the office of an influential Shiite cleric, killing 72 people in Iraq's bloodiest day of the year so far. Homes of police also were

bombed. Al-Maliki said the insurgents were fighting back after the deaths of their two leaders.

The new statement did not mention Friday's bombings, and no group has claimed responsibility for them yet. But the statement signals that al-Qaida will remain a threat to Iraq even without its top two leaders, and urges its members and supporters to stay the course.

"Commit to what those two leaders stood for," the statement says. "Transform the blood of those two leaders into light and fire — a light which will illuminate the path before you and facilitate your ability of speech, and a fire against the enemies of the creed and the religion."

Al-Qaida in Iraq has proven resilient in the past, showing a remarkable ability to change tactics and adapt — most notably after its brutal founder, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, was killed nearly four years ago in a U.S. airstrike. Still, it is

widely believed the group was far stronger then and would likely have a harder time now replenishing its leadership and sticking to a timetable of attacks.

Al-Maliki has seized on the militants' killings to show he can restore stability to Iraq after years of bloodshed. Following his political coalition's second-place finish in the March 7 parliamentary elections, al-Maliki is locked in a tight contest with secular challenger Ayad Allawi to see who will form the next government.

Al-Maliki's coalition trails Allawi's bloc by two seats in the 325-seat parliament, and neither has yet been able to secure enough support from other parties to muster a majority. Meanwhile, the police chief in Hawija, 150 miles (240 kilometers) north of Baghdad, said troops raided the nearby town of al-Safra and arrested Burhan Mahmoud Mohammed, a local leader of the Islamic State of Iraq.



A wounded man lies in a hospital after a bomb attack in Baghdad April 25, 2010. Three bombs in a marketplace killed three and wounded 19 others in Amildistrict in southwestern Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source said.

REUTERS/Stringer

Col. Fatah al-Khafaji told The Associated Press that troops acted on intelligence but did not indicate exactly where the information came from. Iraqi officials have said the investigation into al-Baghdadi and al-Masri, especially the arrest in March of a senior al-Qaida official, has also led them to a number of other leaders associated with the insurgency.

In Baghdad, a so-called sticky bomb attached to the underside of a civilian's car exploded, killing the driver and wounding six passers-by, according to a police officer and a medic at the nearby al-Yarmouk hospital, where the victims were taken. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media. □



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# Hamas releases cartoon about captured Israeli



In this frame grab from an animated film made by the Islamic group of Hamas and released on Sunday, April 25, 2010, an image of Noam Schalit sits next to a portrait of his son, Israeli captured soldier Gilad Schalit. Hamas has sent a sharp warning to Israel in the form of an animated film about an Israeli soldier it has held in Gaza for nearly four years.

(AP Photo/Hamas)

By **BEN HUBBARD**,  
Associated Press Writer  
GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Hamas released an animated film Sunday bearing a grisly message for Israel: If it doesn't meet the Islamic militant group's demands, an Israeli

soldier it has held for nearly four years could return home in a coffin. The short but sophisticated cartoon — which depicts Sgt. Gilad Schalit's aging father wandering empty streets with a picture of his son and ends

with the words "There is still hope" — is the latest product of Hamas' growing media empire.

TV and radio stations controlled by the group continuously broadcast Hamas-produced songs and music videos threatening the Jewish state and rallying the group's militant Islamic base. But the latest cartoon — which was widely broadcast on Israeli TV — was remarkable for the personal and caloused nature of the appeal on an issue that has profound emotional resonance for many Israelis: The fate of Schalit, who was captured by Gaza militants in June 2006.

The website of Hamas' armed wing, which posted the video, said it was intended to pressure Israelis to accept demands for a prisoner swap and warns the Israeli government it could regret not making a deal quickly.

Schalit's father, who has become a recognizable face in

Israel, is the main character of the three-minute, 20-second short, in Hebrew with English and Arabic subtitles. Noam Schalit is normally clean-shaven, but he appears in the film's later scenes with a cane and scraggly gray beard, suggesting he has grown old while awaiting his son's release.

The elder Schalit passes billboards on which Israeli leaders vow to free his son or get information on his fate. He reads a newspaper ad offering \$50 million for information on his son's whereabouts, then tosses it in the trash.

The soundtrack includes clips of his son's voice taken from a Hamas video released last October to prove the soldier was still alive. That video came amid talks aimed at trading Schalit for about 1,000 Palestinians prisoners. Negotiations have since stalled.

Toward the end of the film, screen text in Hebrew and

Arabic informs viewers that the Israeli government's efforts to clinch a prisoner swap deal succeeded. Noam Schalit sits near Israel's Erez border crossing with Gaza, where a black van unloads a coffin draped in an Israeli flag.

The father screams, then wakes up, finding himself sitting at a bus stop. A screen text reads: "There is still hope."

Noam Schalit called the film "psychological warfare" and urged Hamas to reach a deal with Israel in order to ease an Israeli-Egyptian blockade that has made life hard for the 1.5 million Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

"Hamas leaders would do better if instead of producing films and performances, they would worry about the real interests of the Palestinian prisoners and the ordinary citizens of Gaza who have been held hostage by their leaders for a long time," he said in a statement. □

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# Good camp, bad camp: The shortfalls of Haiti aid

By JONATHAN M. KATZ,  
Associated Press Writer  
CROIX-DES-BOUQUETS,  
Haiti — You name it, Camp  
Corail has got it. And Camp  
Obama does not.

The organized relocation  
camp at Corail-Cesselesse  
has thousands of spacious,  
hurricane-resistant tents on  
groomed, graded mountain  
soil. The settlement three miles  
(four kilometers) down the  
road — named after the U.S.  
president in hopes of getting  
attention from foreigners  
— has leaky plastic tarps and  
wooden sticks pitched on a  
muddy slope.

Corail has a stocked U.N.  
World Food Program  
warehouse for its 3,000-and-  
counting residents; the more  
than 8,500 at Camp Obama are  
desperate for food and water.  
Corail's entrance is guarded  
by U.N. peacekeepers and  
Haitian police. Camp Obama's  
residents put up a Haitian flag  
to mark their empty security  
tent.

The camps, neighbors in the  
foothills of a treeless mountain,  
are a diptych of the uneven  
response to Haiti's Jan. 12  
earthquake. More than \$12.7  
billion has been pledged by  
foreign governments, agencies  
and organizations, including  
\$2.8 billion for humanitarian  
response and another \$9.9  
billion promised at the March  
31 U.N. donors conference.

In one camp, which dignitaries  
and military commanders visit  
by helicopter, those billions  
are on display. A short hop  
down the road, they barely  
register.

"We've heard the foreigners  
have given a lot of aid money.  
But we're still living the same  
way as before, and we're still  
dying the same way as before,"  
said Duverny Nelmeus, a 52-  
year-old welder-turned Camp  
Obama resident-coordinator.  
Haiti's needs are still  
enormous, but more than  
100 days after the quake, the  
plan for dealing with them is  
unclear. Even the death toll

is confusing: Government  
estimates hovered around  
230,000 until the U.N. donors  
conference when, without  
explanation, the total jumped  
to 300,000.

There are officially 1.3  
million people displaced by  
the magnitude-7 earthquake.  
Hundreds of thousands have  
massed in settlement camps  
that, like Camp Obama,  
sprouted with little or no  
planning. These Haitians live  
in makeshift tarp homes and  
shanties, govern their affairs  
with self-formed security  
committees and make do with  
whatever aid arrives.

It was said early on that nearly  
all the displaced needed to be  
moved ahead of the arriving  
rainy season to carefully  
planned camps like Corail.  
But it took months to procure  
land.

By March, aid officials decided  
instead that people should start  
going home, saying thousands  
of houses are still habitable or  
can be repaired.



People look at a U.S. helicopter at the Corail refugee camp, on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, Wednesday, April 21, 2010. Corail is a new site prepared by IOM, International Organization for Migration, and US army engineers together with humanitarian partners and suitable for up to 6,000 residents.

(AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)

It was even better, they said,  
for most to stay where they  
were: Agencies deemed just  
37,000 people in nine camps  
at high risk for flash floods,  
said Shaun Scales of the  
International Organization for  
Migration.

But many people are not  
moving, nor do they want to  
stay where they are.

Persistent aftershocks and  
rumors of more to come —  
President Rene Preval warned  
of an impending earthquake  
at a news conference this  
month — are keeping people  
from going back. Private  
landowners and schools are  
threatening to evict squatters.  
Those who remain are  
suffering. □



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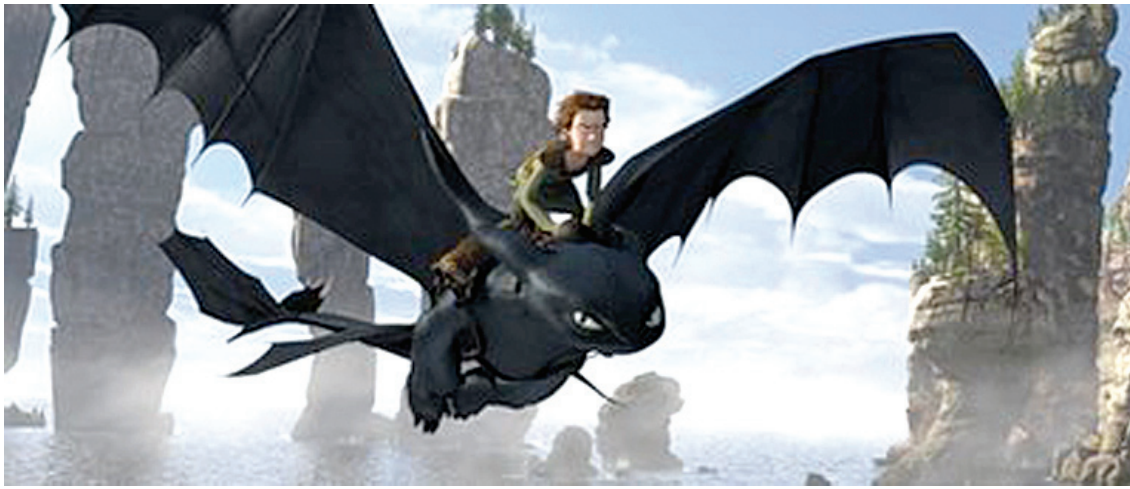
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# 'Dragon' wings it back to No. 1 with \$15 million



**FILE -** In this file film publicity image released by Paramount Pictures, Hiccup, voiced by Jay Baruchel, rides Toothless a scene is shown from 'How to Train Your Dragon.' 'How to Train Your Dragon' continues to breathe fire at the box office, while newer releases are mostly blowing smoke. The animated adventure took in \$15 million to reclaim the No. 1 spot a month after its debut. 'How to Train Your Dragon' opened in first place in late March, then dropped back into the pack. But it has held up strongly and climbed to the top again amid a flurry of so-so new releases.

(AP Photo/Paramount Pictures, File)

By DAVID GERMAIN,  
AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES — "How to Train Your Dragon" continues to breathe fire at the box office, while newer releases are mostly blowing smoke. The DreamWorks Animation adventure took in \$15 million to reclaim the No. 1 spot in its fifth weekend of release. "How to Train Your Dragon" opened in first place in late March, then dropped back into the pack. But it has held up strongly and climbed to the top again amid a flurry of so-so new releases.

The tale of a Viking youth and his pet dragon raised its total to \$178 million and is on its way to becoming a \$200 million hit.

Premiering weakly at No. 2 with \$12.3 million was Jennifer Lopez's romantic comedy "The Back-up Plan," released by CBS Films. Another comedy, Steve Carell

and Tina Fey's "Date Night" from 20th Century Fox, held up well to finish at No. 3 with \$10.6 million, raising its total to \$63.5 million.

Among the weekend's other newcomers, the Warner Bros. action flick "The Losers" flopped at No. 4 with \$9.6 million. Disney's nature film "Oceans" had a solid opening for a documentary, coming in at No. 8 with \$6 million.

"How to Train Your Dragon" nearly regained the No. 1 spot the previous weekend but wound up a close second to Lionsgate's superhero comedy "Kick-Ass." In its second weekend, "Kick-Ass" slumped to No. 5 with \$9.5 million, down 52 percent from its debut, lifting its total to \$34.9 million.

Revenues for "How to Train Your Dragon" were off a scant 23 percent from the previous weekend.

"To be No. 1 in week five, it's

an exciting time," said Anne Globe, head of marketing for DreamWorks Animation. "Especially to be decisively No. 1 after last weekend's box-office shenanigans."

The box office had ended in rare photo finishes for two straight weekends as movies bunched up tightly in the rankings. Though "How to Train Your Dragon" was the clear winner this time, top movies again were crowded closely together as the weekend's newcomers failed to grab much attention.

Overall Hollywood revenues should top out at about \$100 million, the lowest-grossing weekend of the year, said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com.

Fans may simply be watching their finances amid the slow economic recovery, saving their money for the onslaught of summer blockbusters that starts May 7 with "Iron Man

2."

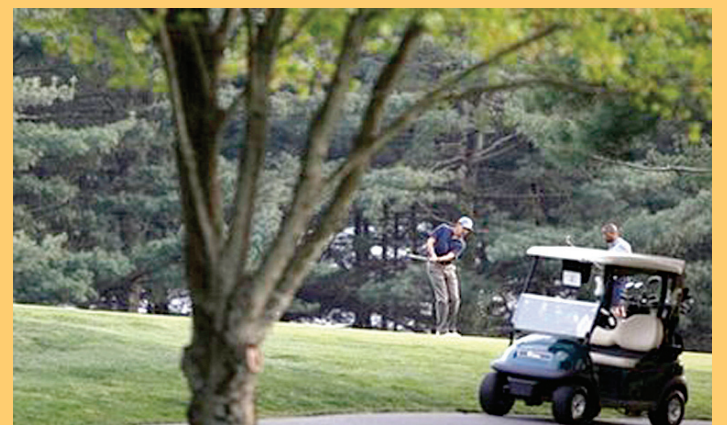
"They may be saying, 'I want to see big summer movies, so I'm just going to wait,'" Dergarabedian said. "Then suddenly, we're going to have this massive weekend when 'Iron Man 2' opens after we've had these mediocre weekends."

While "The Back-up Plan" opened weakly, CBS Films was hoping it would hold up well in subsequent weekends, as romantic comedies often do. "Jennifer Lopez's films have great legs, as does she," said Steven Friedlander, head of distribution for CBS Films. "The Back-up Plan" stars Lopez as a single woman who gets pregnant through artificial insemination, then meets the man of her dreams.

"The Losers," whose cast includes "Avatar" co-star Zoe Saldana, is a comic-book adaptation about a Special Forces team looking for payback after a mission goes bad.

Narrated by Pierce Brosnan, "Oceans" offers up-close glimpses of blue whales, walruses, sea turtles, spider crabs and other aquatic life. Since opening on Earth Day Thursday, "Oceans" has taken in \$8.5 million.

"Oceans" played in narrower release than other new movies, averaging \$4,975 in 1,206 theaters, a fair result for a documentary. By comparison, "The Back-up Plan" averaged \$3,735 in 3,280 theaters and "The Losers" averaged \$3,271 in 2,936 cinemas. □



**President Barack Obama hits his shot on the 10th fairway of the golf course at Grove Park Inn in Asheville, N.C., Friday, April 23, 2010**

(AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

## White House adviser spills secret: Obama loves pie

BURBANK, Calif. — Presidents have had their indulgences — Ronald Reagan loved jellybeans and Bill Clinton binged at McDonald's. What's President Barack Obama's weak spot?

Pie.

Obama's senior adviser, David Axelrod, told Jay Leno Friday that the president was forced to "separate" from the White House pastry chef to break his bad eating habits.

"One of the things that happened when he came to the White House is they have a very great pastry chef. It became a big problem," Axelrod confided on "The Tonight Show."

The president, he said, "has a weakness for pie."

The chunky-built Axelrod might just be needling his boss — Obama lectures him about diet, exercise and his "beer gut."

The pie problem didn't come up earlier this year when the 48-year-old president was declared in excellent health by his doctors. An avid basketball player and golfer, it was said he eats modest portions.

Axelrod had a different story: He says the president loves cheeseburgers and pie, hardly health food.

The news wouldn't be welcomed by first lady Michelle Obama, who's on a campaign against childhood obesity.

"I hope the first lady isn't watching," Axelrod said. □

## Bret Michaels' condition critical from brain bleed

By DERRIK J. LANG,  
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES — Bret Michaels is in critical condition suffering from a brain hemorrhage, his publicist said Friday.

Joann Mignano, Michaels' New York-based publicist, confirmed a report on People magazine's website that said the former Poison frontman was rushed to intensive care late Thursday after a severe headache. The report said doctors discovered bleeding at the base of his brain stem. Mignano said tests are being conducted but did not know where he was being treated. The 47-year-old glam-rock reality TV star had an emergency appendectomy at a private care facility for diabetics last week after complaining of stomach pains before he was scheduled to perform at Sea World in San Antonio, Texas. □



**FILE -**In this Jan. 10, 2010 photo Singer Bret Michaels arrives at the NBC Universal Winter 2010 press tour party in Pasadena, Calif....

(AP Photo/Dan Steinberg)





# Profits still hold key; Greece's debt

By Ellis Mnyandu

NEW YORK (Reuters) – Wall Street is heading into another earnings blitz this week and the prospects of strong results from bellwethers like Caterpillar Inc and 3M Co should propel indexes to new recovery highs.

Another round of strong earnings would be more evidence that the U.S. economic recovery is gaining strength and may help temper some of the risk associated with Greece's debt woes after Athens formally requested aid from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund on Friday.

Of the 172 S&P 500 companies that have already reported earnings for the quarter, some 83 percent have beaten analyst expectations, well above the 61 percent in a typical quarter and above the 79 percent

record set in the third quarter of 2009, according to Thomson Reuters data.

"Fundamentals are continuing to look great, earnings look great. But some market players continue to underestimate how strong this economy is. They continue to fight it, particularly in the retail and consumer sectors," said Paul Zemsky, head of asset allocation at ING Investment Management in New York.

"We continue to think that the economy is going to perform better than consensus. We have turned the corner on job growth."

Although there are other events in the coming week that could play on sentiment, earnings are still seen as the driving factor -- unless other events offer surprises.

The Federal Reserve also has a two-day policy meeting this

week, but analysts widely expect the central bank will keep interest rates near zero and stick to its pledge of low rates for an extended period to foster the recovery.

And top executives from Goldman Sachs (GS.N) are scheduled to testify before a U.S. Senate panel on Tuesday.

The testimony of Goldman Sachs Chief Executive Lloyd Blankfein and the bond trader at the center of a high-profile civil fraud case promises to be a major spectacle after the Securities and Exchange Commission leveled charges against the bank and the trader, Fabrice Tourre, a week ago.

The Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations has said it was using Goldman to probe the role of investment banks in the securitization of mortgage



Greece's Finance Minister George Papaconstantinou (R) pauses during a news conference with President of the Council of Economic Advisors of Greece's Finance Ministry George Zanas (L) at the International Monetary Fund/World Bank Spring Meetings at IMF headquarters in Washington, April 25, 2010.

REUTERS/Jonathan Ernst

products and the "development, marketing and trading" of products such as collateralized debt obligations.

Although the hearing will command attention and put Goldman in the spotlight, corporate earnings are expected to support evidence of the economic recovery and drive the market higher.

"Looking for continued economic improvement and first-quarter corporate reports is more tangible in terms of gleaning the strength and direction of this recovery" as opposed to the noise of Goldman and financial reform," said Phil Orlando, chief equity market strategist at Federated Investors in New York. Besides Caterpillar and 3M Co, other earnings highlights this week will

include U.S. Steel Corp (X.N); chipmaker Texas Instruments (TXN.N); chemical maker DuPont (DD.N) and credit and debit payments network Visa Inc (V.N).

Energy heavyweights Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM.N) and Chevron Corp (CVX.N) are also on the earnings scoreboard. For a full earnings diary, see

There are also plenty of economic indicators to wade through, including the government's advance reading on first-quarter gross domestic product on Friday.

"I think you could see some folks throwing in the towel right there, realizing that this economy is recovering and growing a lot more strongly than the perma-bears believe," Orlando said on the upcoming GDP report. □

## World Bank agrees power shift to emerging nations: US



US Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner (L) and World Bank President Robert Zoellick arrive for the Development Committee group photo during the IMF/World Bank Spring Meetings in Washington, DC. The World Bank agreed at a high-level meeting here Sunday to raise more money for global aid and give emerging countries a greater say in how it is distributed.

(AFP/Mandel Ngan)

WASHINGTON (AFP) – US Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner on Sunday said that World Bank members had agreed to give emerging nations more say in how the bank is run and how its funds are disbursed.

"The new formula will better reflect the weight of the developing and transition countries in the global economy, while protecting the voice of the smallest and poorest countries," he said.

Geithner added that Washington would not seek an increased share in the bank's new governance structure as a sign of support for the shift in influence to developing countries.

"Because we believe this overall outcome merits our strong endorsement, the United States agreed not to take up its full shareholding in this new arrangement," his statement said.

Japanese deputy finance minister Rintaro Tamaki said in his own statement that "as a result of the voice reform this time, Japan will shoulder a burden of the largest reduction in the voting share, in order to contribute to realizing a shift of the voting share to the developing and transition countries."

Tamaki added that "it is the first time for Japan to have our voting share reduced since we joined the Bank in 1952." World Bank president Robert Zoellick had forecast earlier that the bank's spring meeting on Sunday would represent a turning point after "2009 saw the end of what was known as the Third World."

"Economic and political tectonic plates are shifting," he noted, and added: "We can shift with them." □

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# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY

### Lorena Ochoa retires from golf in a wrenching farewell



MEXICO CITY (AP)—Her voice breaking and eyes watering, Lorena Ochoa said goodbye to golf. She made her farewell Friday after a career in which she reigned as No. 1 for three years, won two majors and

27 tour victories and was honored for four straight years as the LPGA Tour's Player of the Year. She also was not alone in being swept up in the moment. Her father, Javier, dabbed away tears with a tissue at the

retirement news conference. Her brother and manager, Alejandro, broke down in his remarks.

The 28-year-old Ochoa has never forgotten her Mexican roots, her family and her friends. That grounded sense of self was not lost on those all across golf.

"We all know that Lorena's golf has spoken for itself," LPGA Tour vice president Jane Geddes said, sitting alongside Ochoa. "But what has always been the most impressive to the players is the way in which Lorena was able to balance her rise to greatness with such humility."

Ochoa made her surprise announcement Tuesday. On Friday, she filled in the details.

She will step away as an active player after the Tres Marias Championship next week in Morelia, Mexico. She left the door slightly ajar to play a few more tournaments, including her own Lorena Ochoa Invitational each November in her hometown of Guadalajara. But a full-blown return seems unlikely. She wants to raise a family—she was married in December to Aeromexico chief executive



Andres Conesa—and run her charity foundation.

"What I am trying to say is that the door is open in a way," she said. "The opportunities may come to play one or two tournaments in two years or three years but not a full season. No."

Ochoa said she had planned to play the entire 2010 season. Two tournaments in Asia earlier this season changed her mind.

"I realized maybe I didn't have the necessary motivation and that I wanted to start a new life and come to Mexico and do different things with the foundation," she said. "I

have achieved all I needed to achieve in sports. Now is time to change, I'm going to keep working very hard, but at home."

With her husband seated in the front row, she spoke of the demands of the game—the tough schedule, the difficulties of staying No. 1. But she broke down when it came time to actually utter the words that she was leaving.

"Today begins a new stage," she said, her voice choking, her eyes misting. "Today is the most special day of my career. Every career has a beginning and an end. Ours has come." □





# Banged-up Lakers head home with series tied 2-2



OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Kobe Bryant (notes) and the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers find themselves at a crossroads. After suffering their second straight loss, this time in blowout fashion, their series against the upstart Oklahoma City Thunder shifts back to Los Angeles tied at two games. But Bryant and his veteran teammates see no reason to panic after a surprising surge by the youngest team in the NBA, with most of Oklahoma City's players making their first postseason appearance. "It's not rocket science," said Bryant, limited to 12 points in the 110-89 loss in Game 4. "We had a tough battle, we've got adjustments to make and

we have a team that's playing extremely well right now that we have to deal with. "It's not something where we lose swagger. They defended their home court. Now, it's our turn. Simple as that." Game 5 is Tuesday night at the Staples Center in L.A. "We didn't envision ourselves in this situation but it's where we are, and that doesn't change anything about the way that you should approach the next game," Derek Fisher (notes) said. "If we were up 3-1, we would still want to go back and win Tuesday night's game. "That's what our focus is right now, is making the necessary adjustments to put ourselves in position to win Tuesday night's game and kind of get



the series back in our favor." None of the adjustments coach Phil Jackson laid out for his team ended up taking shape in Game 4. The Lakers again failed to make it a half-court game and instead allowed the Thunder to do damage in transition, with a 24-2 edge in fast-break scoring. Oklahoma City also continued its baffling control of the boards despite the presence of 7-footers Pau Gasol (notes) and Andrew Bynum (notes) inside for Los Angeles while shooting 20 more free throws. Any hopes of an early end to the series and extra rest for a team that lists eight players with various injuries are gone now. "We said at the beginning of the series this wasn't going to be easy," said Bryant, who's nursing a sore knee and a broken right index finger. "It was going to be a long series,

it was going to be a dogfight. Now more so than before because they have a ton of confidence, they know how to play against us, they know what matchups they like. So, we've just got to go forward now." □



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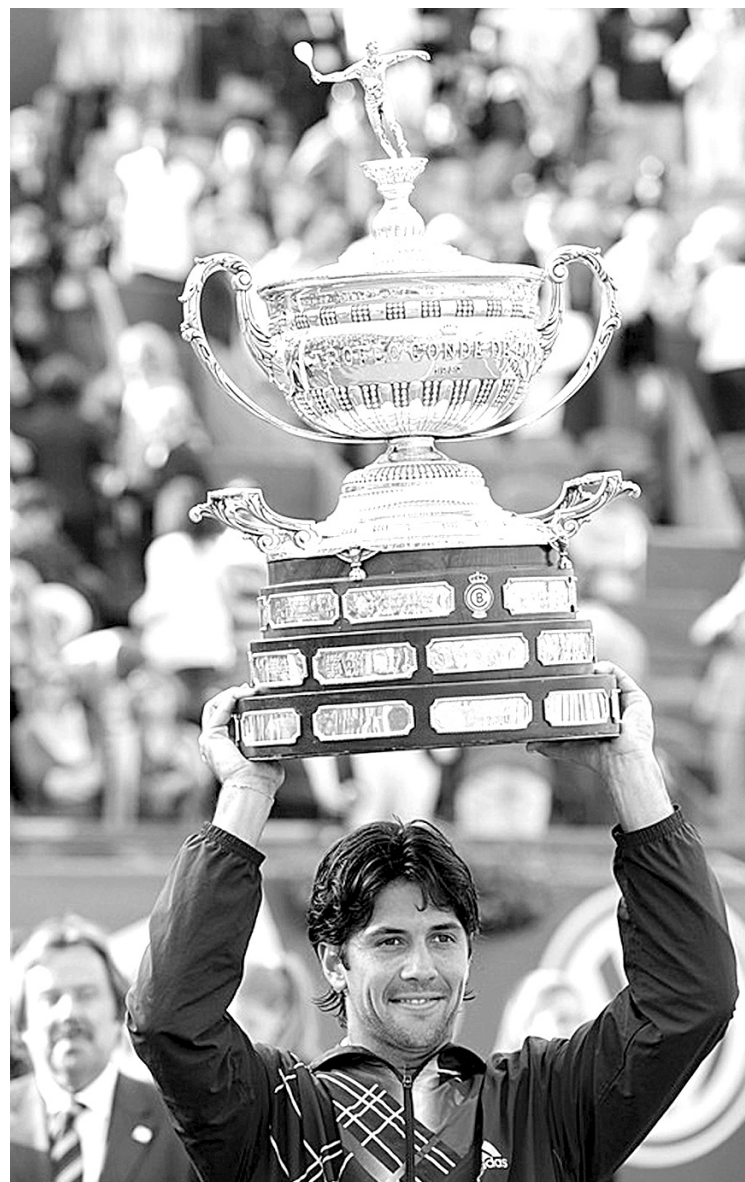
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# Verdasco beats Soderling to win Barcelona Open

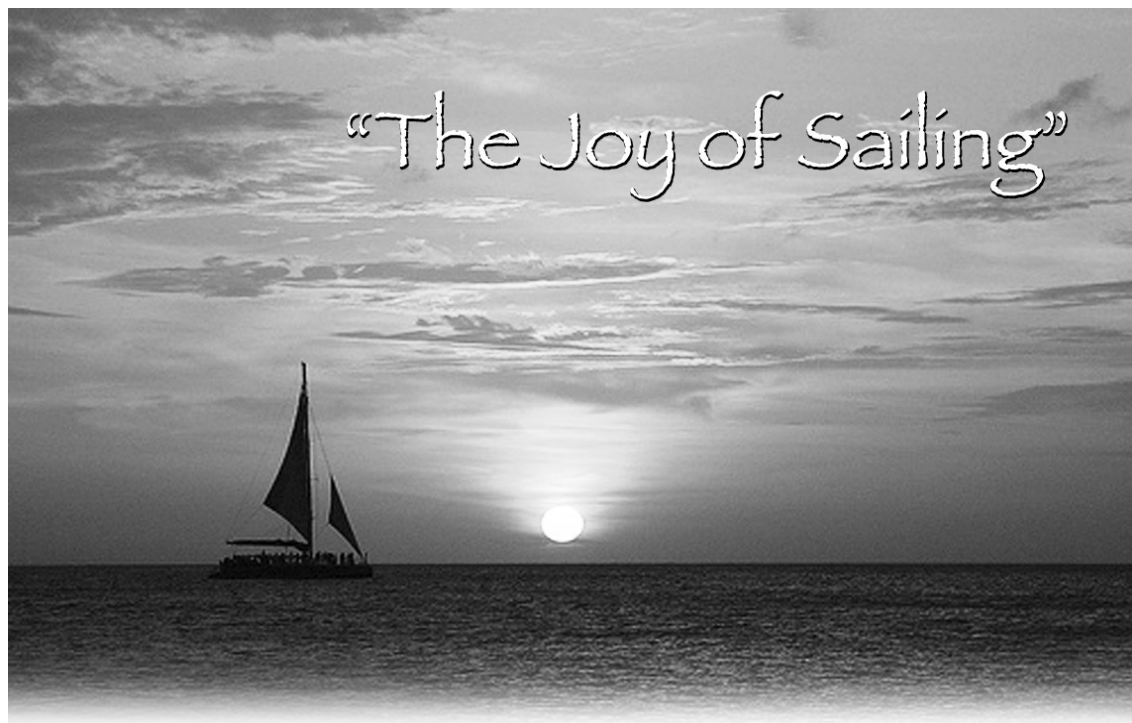


BARCELONA, Spain (AP)— Spain's Fernando Verdasco beat Robin Soderling of Sweden 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 Sunday final for his second title this



season. Verdasco ensured an eighth straight Spanish winner after topping the second-seeded Soderling in a matchup of baseline groundstrokes. The fifth-seeded Verdasco broke Soderling on consecutive service games to take the first set before faltering in the second set to even the match. Verdasco scored the decisive break in the fourth game of the last set when Soderling hit wide. Verdasco served out the match for his second title of the season in his third final. Verdasco dropped to the red clay to savor a win that came only after he accepted a last-minute wild-card invitation. "I wasn't planning to play

this week so you can imagine my feelings right now. It's incredible," the ninth-ranked Verdasco said after improving his overall record in finals to 5-7 while snapping a four-match losing streak to Soderling. "At the last minute they convinced me to come and now I'm lifting the trophy so thanks to all of them." Verdasco's clay court season started began last week at the Monte Carlos Masters, where he lost to Rafael Nadal in the final. Nadal skipped the Barcelona Open after winning it five straight years. The eighth-ranked Soderling was looking to become the first Swede to win the tournament since Kent Carlsson. Soderling fell to 5-8 in career finals. □



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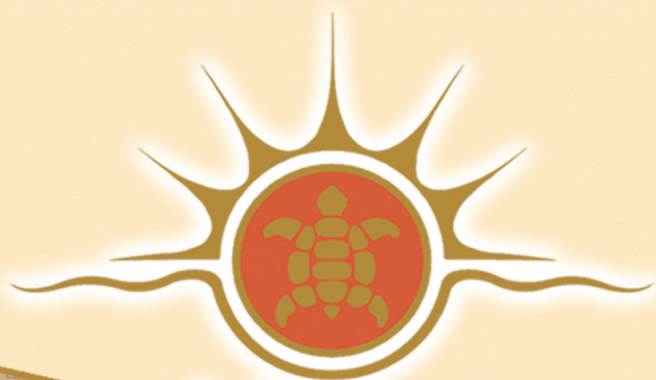
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## Kim Clijsters out up to 6 weeks with torn foot muscle



BRUSSELS —Kim Clijsters is out for up to six weeks after tearing a muscle in her left foot during a Fed Cup singles match Saturday.

The injury forced her to pull out of Sunday's reverse singles in the best-of-five series against Estonia, and casts doubt on whether the

U.S. Open champion will be able to play in next month's French Open.

"When the doctor tells you six weeks, then you start panicking. You think of your season's planning," she told VRT network.

The year's second Grand Slam tournament starts in

four weeks, on May 23, but Clijsters is hoping that intensive treatment will shorten the estimated six-week rehabilitation.

"I am someone who heals reasonably fast," she said. Clijsters beat Maret Ani 6-4, 6-2 Saturday despite discomfort in her left foot in the second set.

"I felt during a backhand that something serious was happening.

I had never felt this before," she said.

The bruising became more painful overnight and tests at a hospital showed liquid had built up in her foot, and a tear in one of the muscles on the inside of her foot.

She said she will use crutches for a few days to rest the foot. It was unclear when she could resume full training.

The injury is Clijsters' first major setback since she returned from retirement last year. Often slowed by injuries before she retired, she took special care in her comeback to avoid wearing down her body.

Since her return in Cincinnati last August, she won the U.S. Open for her second Grand Slam title. This year, she claimed the Brisbane International in January and last month won the Sony



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Belgium defeated Estonia 3-1

to advance to the World Group of the Fed Cup. □

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# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY

### Kebede ends Kenya's 6-year London Marathon reign



LONDON (AP) -- Tsegaye Kebede of Ethiopia won the London Marathon for the first time on Sunday to end Kenya's six-year winning streak, and Liliya Shobukhova led a Russian one-two in the women's race.

The 23-year-old Kebede improved on last year's second-place finish by running the 42.2-kilometer (26.2-mile) race in 2 hours, 5 minutes, 19 seconds.

"The rain wasn't very nice -- it made my pace a little slow and because of that I had a few problems in my legs," Kebede said. "I was second last year so it is good to win this year. Maybe next year, without the rain, I could run 2:04."

The Olympic bronze medalist had looked set to break the world mark but still finished more than a minute ahead of Emmanuel Mutai of Kenya, while Jaouad Gharib of Morocco was third.

"At around 25k I felt Kebede pulled away and I would not get him back," Mutai said.

Defending champion Sammy Wanjiru had feared his performance would suffer after enduring a two-day journey from Nairobi, Kenya via Eritrea, Djibouti, Egypt and Spain due to the air travel restrictions caused by volcanic ash. And the Olympic champion, who is still recovering from back problems, dropped out after 25kms.

"Traveling here was very hard and maybe that affected my knee -- I wasn't comfortable sitting on the plane all that time," said the 23-year-old Wanjiru, who holds the course record. "When I started there was no pain and I felt in good shape. 'I was confident about winning but you can't predict the body. I started to feel pain about

20 kilometers and it became very serious.'" Fellow Kenyan Abel Kirui had traveled with him and remained in contention until the final stages before dropping back to fifth.

There was also a strong performance to please the home crowd with Andrew Lemoncello of Britain finishing eighth in 2:13:40.

Earlier, the 32-year-old Shobukhova made it two marathon victories out of three as she became the first Russian woman to prevail in London, finishing 19 seconds ahead of compatriot Inga Abitova.

After leading for much of the race in wet conditions, Shobukhova broke away with two kilometers to go to finish in 2:22:00 to add to her victory in Chicago in October and improve on her third-place finish in London last year on her marathon debut.

"The rain was no problem -- it was in and out which made it almost perfect conditions," Shobukhova said through an interpreter. "The pace was easy

but I decided to push in the second half to break up the pack." Aselefech Mergia blamed her third-place finish on exhaustion as her bid to become the first Ethiopian woman to win here since 2001 fell short.

"I didn't feel fresh," she said. "Next time I will not race so much and come to the event fresh." Irina Mikitenko of Germany had been chasing a third straight win, but pulled out just before the halfway stage. "I felt a muscle problem in my lower shin muscle after 5 kilometers," Mikitenko said. "The slippery roads made it worse and I first stopped running after 15 kilometers before pulling out."

British hopeful Mara Yamauchi was second behind Mikitenko last year, but finished tenth as she showed the effects of a grueling six-day journey from her training base in Albuquerque, New Mexico -- a result of the travel chaos caused by the volcanic eruption in Iceland. □

### Brewers send Suppan to bullpen

MILWAUKEE (AP) -- Brewers right-hander Jeff Suppan has been removed from the rotation in the fourth and final year of his \$42 million contract in favor of Chris Narveson. Suppan opened the year on

the disabled list with neck pain. He went 0-1 with an 8.68 ERA in two appearances as the fifth starter, including being booed off the field after giving up six runs and 10 hits in 4 1-3 innings in Friday night's 8-1 loss to



Chicago. Suppan says his results haven't been there, but he feels like he's making good pitches. "I'm just trying to continue to work on what I need to work on to go out there and pitch," Suppan said. "I'll go to the bullpen and help out any way I can."

Suppan said he understood the reasoning behind the move, and declined to say whether he felt two starts were enough to justify the decision. He went 7-12 with

a 5.29 ERA last year.

"They have their reasons and they have their thoughts, and I respect that," he said. "They make the decisions, so like I said, I'll go down to the bullpen and work on what I need to work on."

Brewers manager Ken Macha said he told Suppan that the move wasn't permanent, but that the team will give Narveson several turns in the rotation after going 2-0 in four starts late last year. □



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*Ambitious national strategy*

## Autism Speaks ready to assist Aruba

*Ministers of Public Health, Education and Social Affairs support the plans*



ORANJESTAD—Aruba will develop a national strategy on autism thanks to a joint effort of three Ministers in collaboration with Autism Speaks.

This agreement came as a result of a recent lunch meeting between Minister of Justice and Education Arthur Dowers and Minister of Economic Affairs, Social Affairs and Culture Michelle Hooyboer Winklaar and Dr. Andy Shih of Autism Speaks. The meeting was facilitated by the Aruba Autism Foundation and was part of the First International Autism Symposium Aruba held at the Westin. The symposium was a major success. Over 200 professionals in the field of medicine, education, therapies and also parents attended the three day event, which included presentations and workshop led by leading experts on the field of autism from the USA, The Netherlands, Mexico and The Netherlands Antilles. They brought forth the latest findings on autism and autism treatment

to the audience.

Dr. Andy Shih, Vice President of Science Affairs of Autism Speaks was also among the speakers, and he spoke about the Global Autism Public Health Initiative, GAPH. Dr. Shih expanded on GAPH during the meeting with the Ministers, in presence of Aruban-born Dutch expert on autism in adulthood, Dr. Miguel Santana, Dr. Ike Posner of the Medical Committee of the General Health Insurance and also members of the Aruba Autism Foundation board.

GAPH is an international advocacy and development effort to help Autism Speaks partner countries to increase public and professional awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorders; facilitate research and research training; enhance service delivery via training in diagnosis and intervention. Currently Autism Speaks is partnered with Qatar, Mexico, Ireland, Albania, and The Philippines, and if everything goes according to plan, soon with Aruba. The initiative entails that the organization will provide the technical assistance and leverage to help local programs and capacity, according to local needs.

Autism Speaks is an organization created by former NBC Universal Chairman Bob Wright and his wife Robin, upon learning their grandson had autism. The Wrights used their networks and connections to truly turn Autism Speaks into a advocacy powerhouse.

By 2008, the organization convinced the United Nations to declare April 2nd as World Autism Awareness Day, WAAD, one of the only three days designated to disease awareness by the UN.

A key element in treating autism is awareness. Therefore the organization encourages families to learn the early warning signs of autism and act early by consulting their doctors if they suspect a delay in development. Awareness also helps build a more compassionate community and increases fundraising, supporting science and family services programs.

The goal of GAPH is to enable early diagnosis and intervention and disseminate best practices. But according to Dr. Shih, there are barriers to achieving this. The main barriers are limited capacity and expertise in especially behavioral intervention. This is not limited to developing countries alone. There is also lack of low cost community-based treatment solutions to maximize coverage and impact.

This is the reason why Autism Speaks proposes and already works with a model of building service capacity through training and education. It is called the Phased Development Model or Train the Trainer. In order to do so, countries like Aruba will have to identify a national planning group of parents, government officials and clinical/educational professionals to identify priorities. Autism Speaks will provide the technical assistance for a national training team in the desired skills or practices, and will work with the national training team to revise or modify protocols or practices, to reflect local cultural and social values and availability of resources or infrastructure. Autism Speaks will also support the national training team members while they transition to become



independent trainers and/or practitioners.

Dr. Shih emphasized that GAPH is a process and not a one-size-fits all solution. Due to differences in resources, infrastructure, culture and priorities, territories and countries will require customized plans of action. While Autism Speaks can provide technical assistance and leverage resource, local leaderships and partnerships are essential for success. GAPH is also an opportunity to complement and integrate existing awareness, research and service programs. In other words, for GAPH to work there has to be a deep community engagement.

Ministers Dowers and Hooyboer Winklaar gave their commitment for the development of GAPH National

Advisory Committee. Minister of Public Health Richard Visser, even though he was not on-island during the symposium also gave the process a thumbs-up via a recorded message.

Aruba Autism Foundation will now prepare the groundwork for the establishment of the National Advisory Committee which, with the assistance of Autism Speaks will have to outline pilot project, from awareness campaigns to training programs, leading to a national strategy on autism.

For more information, contact Aruba Autism Foundation, telephone 5881179, or visit the website, [www.autismoaruba.org](http://www.autismoaruba.org). The website will soon feature the presentations of the various speakers at the First International Autism Symposium Aruba. □



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ORANJESTAD - On this past Earth Day as well as all year round, AHATA and its member strive to put forward ecological goals through individual efforts at member companies as well as through the initiatives brought forward through the AHATA Environmental Committee. In demonstrating their commitment to Mother Earth, associates from the AHATA office as well as AHATA's different member companies recently took to the street, to the beach and beyond, in making a clean sweep of popular local attractions and sites.

A large quantity of volunteers from AHATA-member companies participated in Earth Day activities. Working close to home, beach clean-ups were organized by several resorts, with volunteers out in full force around sites including Amsterdam Manor, Bucuti Beach Resort/Tara Beach and The Westin. Litter was swept from the different areas, with The Westin alone filling 60 55-gallon bags with trash. Associates from the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa headed up to the Hospital district, with over 25 volunteers removing an assortment of trash in a morning clean-up effort. The island's historical sites were also given a fair amount of attention, with Hyatt staff and guests returning to its adopted landmark of the Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins as part of their regular-scheduled "Embrace" project as well as incorporating it into their weeklong Hyatt Earth Celebrations. Occidental Grand associates were also well represented in Earth Day activities, with about 60 participants cleaning up the area around the California Lighthouse.

At the break of dawn, the ECO Destination Management team was out at the Casibari Rock Formation, proving that no rock was too high nor no cactus thorn too daunting in its effort to retrieve trash from the popular attraction. De Palm Tours made their way back to their adopted site of the Alto Vista Chapel to remove all the debris entangled in cactus and strewn around by the wind as well as to landscape the area.

Red Sail Sports, together with Padi, took Earth Day efforts even one step farther, covering



the wide expanse of Urirami to Wariruri, along the northern coast, bringing together a grand total of 385 volunteers this past Saturday for an intensive annual beach clean-up.

Several of these same AHATA-member companies coupled clean-up actions with

educational lectures, recycling competitions as well as nature outings, inland and out at sea. This past Earth Day provided AHATA-member companies yet another opportunity to embrace, contribute to and promote the importance of a clean and beautiful Aruba. □





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## Dutch island horrified by same-sex marriages

Two women who want to marry? It is an issue many people on the Dutch Caribbean island of St Eustatius are horrified by. Not to mention euthanasia and abortion. St Eustatius is threatening to go to the United Nations in protest against some aspects of Dutch legislation being imposed on them.

St Eustatius, Bonaire and Saba are to become 'special municipalities' of the Netherlands as a result of the formal dismantlement of the Dutch Antilles, which will take place later this year. When this happens Dutch law will be in force on the islands, which are former colonies of the Netherlands. They became semi-autonomous in 1954, when the Dutch Antilles got the status of a separate country within the kingdom of the Netherlands. The treaty underlying this status will end in October 2010.

The Island Council of St Eustatius has unanimously approved a motion against the 'anti-social laws' of the Netherlands, as Clyde van Putten, who tabled it, calls them. The document which was sent to the Dutch

parliament on Tuesday, speaks of 'big cultural and emotional shocks'.

### Huge moral objections

The islanders are mainly Christians and have huge moral objections to same-sex marriage and abortion, which the Dutch government cannot just push aside, says RNW's Antilles correspondent René Roodhevel.

"The Netherlands has taken decades to formulate legislation on abortion, euthanasia and single-sex marriage. St Eustatius is getting it in two years, the abortion law will be imposed within just one year."

But constitution expert Lodewijk Rogier of Rotterdam's Erasmus University is in no doubt over the matter: the islands will be subject to Dutch law. "What can they ask the United Nations to do? The

discussion there is usually about whether a country can operate independently. Not about the internal legislation of a county. St Eustatius is going to become part of the Netherlands and then Dutch law applies."

### Time to adjust

The Dutch government had anticipated problems, which is why it gave the islands two years to get used to the changes.

Green Left MP Ineke van Gent is disappointed by St Eustatius' resistance to the new laws, although she understands the sensitivities. "Just like in the rest of the world there are gay people on the Antilles who love each other and want to marry," says Ms Van Gent. "There is no question of society breaking down as feared by the opponents to the legislation."



### Practical objections

But the Island Council could get its way, even without UN intervention.

There is a whole package of matters that need to be addressed. Doctors have to be trained and legislation has to be modified. Dutch deputy minister Ank Bijleveld, who is responsible for introducing the new legislation, has

already indicated that if it cannot be done, she will take the matter back to parliament.

But in the end St Eustatius is fighting a losing battle. The island has agreed to the reforms by which they become part of the Netherlands. And that includes its ethical legislation. □

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# Team Aruba Prepares for Upcoming Georgia Drags

*Thankful for Overwhelming Fan Support*



UNION, NORTH CAROLINA - Despite their successful test run of 6.31 at 218mph before the Mountain Motor Pro Stock Association (MMPSA) inaugural race, Team Aruba was plagued with unfortunate bad luck as tire problems kept the team from performing

optimally.

"Off-course, we were trying new things to make our car go faster," says Team Aruba driver, Trevor Eman. "But we ended up getting lost in our new changes, and didn't get a handle on them until the first round of eliminations."

Team Aruba quickly determined that their problems resided within their tires.

"We pinpointed the issue, realizing that our problems stemmed from our tires. When we replaced them, we were able to get back down the track."

Though The Rock presented its fair share of challenges, Team Aruba thoroughly enjoyed their time at the MMPSA season opener. "It was great to finally get the new MMPSA season underway," Trevor comments.

The return to quarter-mile track racing and familiar faces brought nostalgia to the team. "It was great to compete against teams that we used



to race against while we were under the IHRA. They are a really great group of people, and the competition that comes with racing against them is just awesome."

to travel to Aruba. Fans that are ready for a paradise vacation can start planning their trip through our island's website, [www.Aruba.com](http://www.Aruba.com), where they can find everything they want to know about Aruba."

The team received a very warm welcome from fans, as many spectators ventured to the pits to visit Team Aruba to receive autographs, purchase Team Aruba shirts, and learn more about Autism Speaks, an organization that Team Aruba is proudly associated with. Team Aruba became an official spokes-team for Autism Speaks in 2008, and collects donations for autism awareness at every race event. "We are so grateful for our fans. A lot of people were very generous at our Autism Speaks donation box," says Trevor.

In the pits, spectators gather around the Team Aruba display to learn more about the team's home country of Aruba. "We love to tell everyone about Aruba!" exclaims Trevor. The team proudly puts together its Aruba.com display in the pits at every race, offering race attendants more information about the island paradise, as well as travel information. "We always encourage people

This week, Team Aruba is preparing for the American Drag Racing League (ADRL) Hardee's Georgia Drags VI, to be held at Southwest Georgia Motorsports Park in Cecil, Georgia this weekend. Trevor and Team Aruba are looking forward to the upcoming competition, and feel the overwhelming support of their fans.

"We're looking forward to our next ADRL event in Georgia. We have so much support both here and back home in Aruba, and we are definitely doing our best to win our first race. Hopefully we can achieve that very soon this year."

Fans can visit Team Aruba's official website, [www.teamaruba.com](http://www.teamaruba.com) for exclusive photos, news updates, and behind the scenes footage. Fans can also follow Team Aruba on Facebook to view exclusive video, see upcoming events, and discuss Team Aruba with fellow fans. □



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## ISA Supports "Fundacion pa nos Comunidad"



ORANJESTAD -- The newly formed Fundacion pa nos Comunidad benefited from some hard work performed by the International School of Aruba's Elementary art students.

Children in grades Pre K through grade 4 used creativity and lots of glue to create gorgeous donation boxes to support Fundacion's Food Bank program.

The "shopping bag/donation"

boxes will be in businesses all around the island for persons to drop in their spare change which will in turn be used to purchase much-needed foods for the charitable organization's food bank. The Food Bank will provide basic groceries to families in need on the island of Aruba.

Ms. Anita van der Sloot, ISA's Art teacher, oversaw her young students as they



diligently toiled to craft the boxes, which when finished looked much like a mosaic shopping bag. Many laughs were shared as the children worked with their classmates and learned more about the foundation and what the bags would be used for. The proud students vowed to look for "their" bags in shops on the island and were equally happy to know they were helping to serve the community.

For more information on Fundacion pa nos Comunidad visit their website at [www.fpnearuba.com](http://www.fpnearuba.com). To contact the International School of Aruba, go to [www.isaruba.com](http://www.isaruba.com) or call tel.: 583 5040. □

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# Energetic Transfer 1 - Emotion

Humans are energetic creatures. Beyond three dimensions, we each generate an individual Energetic Signature, broadcasting to the Universe exactly who we are. The three dimensional part of the energetic signature is generated by our emotions, thoughts and actions. As Humans in society, we are immersed in the energy signatures of those around us, and we're susceptible to each other's influence. While this sounds like another force against us, we can learn to tap into the Energy of the Mass

Consciousness for our own empowerment.

Thoughts and emotions can be transferred from person to person. Have you ever found yourself angry, and had no idea why? Often, it is because you picked up someone else's emotions. This can happen whenever we're in close physical proximity to other people. Even though it's easier with friends, family, those we're emotionally close to, it can also happen with complete strangers. If conditions are right, we can pick up thoughts and emotions just by walking past someone. We read each other's Energetic Signatures far more than we realize.

It is important to know the necessary conditions that make the transfer possible, so that we can learn to turn it on and off. In order for energy transfer to occur, your personal energy fields must be a common frequency of vibration. In other words, in order to pick up someone else's anger, you must have the energy of anger already within you, close to the surface, ready to express itself. Emotions cannot latch onto you unless you already have them inside you, so don't start blaming others for your moods and mood swings. Take responsibility for yourself in all aspects of your life, and

you reclaim your personal power.

When we set conscious intentions each day for what we will allow and not allow in our lives, we consciously manipulate our personal energy fields.

We can consciously forbid negative energy from attaching to us, and open ourselves to receiving supportive, empowering energy. Write down your simple intentions, the energy you're open to receive, and the energy you forbid from your life. State them loudly and clearly at the start of every day. Record your self stating your boundaries and intentions, and put you on your ipod. No one listens to you and understands what you're saying like you do.

This occurs on an energetic level, beyond three dimensions, so don't doubt that your conscious declarations do make a difference. Doubt is always a poison to your success.

This is also a great way to practice setting boundaries for the way others interact with you. When we set boundaries on an energetic level within ourselves, we know when they're being crossed. The ensuing frustration gives us the courage to let others know when they're crossing our

personal boundaries. Setting personal boundaries with other people is a challenge for most, and practicing in your mind will help you ultimately take action.

Tomorrow, we'll talk about the transfer of thoughts between people.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to [www.HumanHints.com](http://www.HumanHints.com) to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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	matinee: 1:00	3:30	late show: 11:00	
PG-13	<b>CLASH OF THE TITANS</b>	daily: 6:00	8:30	
	matinee: 1:00	3:30	late show: 11:15	
PG-13	<b>THE BOUNTY HUNTER</b>	daily: 4:00	6:30	9:00
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PG-13	<b>WHY DID I GET MARRIED TOO</b>	daily: 4:00	6:45	9:15
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PG	<b>ALICE IN WONDERLAND</b>	daily: 5:30		
	matinee: 12:30	3:00	late show:	
R	<b>GREEN ZONE</b>		8:15	
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PG-13	<b>THE BACK-UP PLAN</b>	daily: 4:00	6:15	8:30
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R	<b>COP OUT</b>	daily: 6:15	9:00	
	matinee: 1:00	3:45	late show: 11:30	
PG	<b>HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON</b>	daily: 4:15	6:30	8:45
	matinee: 1:45		late show: 11:00	
PG-13	<b>OUR FAMILY WEDDING</b>	daily: 5:30	7:45	9:45
	matinee: 12:45	3:00	late show: 12:00	
PG	<b>DIARY OF A WIMPY KID</b>	daily:		
	matinee: 12:30	2:45	late show:	
R	<b>REPO MEN</b>	daily: 5:30	8:00	
	matinee: 12:15	3:00	late show: 11:00	
PG-13	<b>DATE NIGHT</b>	daily: 5:00	7:30	9:30
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# Aqua Windie's Summer of Fun, packs activities for kids and teens



EAGLE BEACH -- Aqua Windie's on Eagle Beach just made its Summer Vacation schedule-of-activities public. During Summer Vacation, 2010, the swim center, with a semi-Olympic swimming pool, café and dive shop, will be open Monday to Saturday, offering special activities from July 19th to August 14th. The activities are designed to keep kids busy, challenged and entertained, allowing parents peace of mind, as their children are supervised by professional instructors in a disciplined, safe, clean and structured

environment. The Aqua Windie's staff is made up of professionals in the field of Swimming & Fitness, and their creative minds came up with a menu of excellent things-to-do-when-out-of-school: Body Boarding Days for kids over 6 include instruction in the pool, body boarding at Boca and pool games in the afternoon. Snorkeling Days for kids over 6 include instruction in the pool, an educational Fish Identification course, snorkeling at Boca Catalina and Mangle Halto, and pool games in the afternoon.

Adventure Days for kids over 6 include exploration of the tidal pools on the North coast, searching for seahorses in Grapefield, looking for shells at the Pet Cemetery and pool games in the afternoon. PADI Scuba Camp for kids over 12 will complete the course in just 5 days, and includes lunch, sodas, books, the use of equipment, pool sessions, 4 dives and all certifications. Kids over 8 may enjoy Scuba



Days where the basic Scuba theory is covered and Basic Scuba Skills are practiced in the pool, including lunch and a



real dive in shallow waters with beautiful fish all around. Canoe Days for kids over 6 include picnics at Mangel Halto, and canoeing in the calm and beautiful channel area. Parents Off Day, every Saturday, allows parents to drop their kids, 4 years or older, off for four hours of fun in the pool. All educators agree that great summer camp experiences boost kids' self esteem and create memories that last a lifetime. Choosing the best summer camp for your child, can be a real challenge, especially on the island where options are limited,

however at Aqua Windie's kids have a great time, combined with learning of new skills and physical development, working the body and challenging the mind. Give your kids a summer of Swimming, Snorkeling, Body Boarding and Canoeing, away from the video games, the TV and the couch, and you will watch them improve as students, in the coming school year. Aqua Windie's Swim Center, Dr. Horacio E. Oduber Blvd. #4, tel.: 297 583 5669 + 297 592 3975. <http://www.aquawindies.com>, [windie@setarnet.aw](mailto:windie@setarnet.aw)

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**PALM BEACH** – The health and calorie conscious among us need fear steakhouses no more. Whether it's a low-carb, low-fat, or even vegetarian diet you follow, Texas de Brazil Churrascaria fits into just about every dieter's menu plan.

Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthiest style of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge.

The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers up a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but **Texas de Brazil's** version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, **Texas de Brazil** will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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*Adam Steinfeld live tonight!*

## Don't miss Magic & Comedy tonight at the Westin



STEINFELD: 'MAGIC LIVE!' Theater-of-illusions show... now at the WESTIN - Aruba, see it live! 9pm nightly NightMagic-Comedy- Master of illusions. PREPARE to Witness TOP-Class Illusions, Magic & Comedy on Stage. Adam Steinfeld's Magic Live!® show, at the WESTIN - Aruba... 'Sensational!', 'Amazingly Funny!'...the Hottest ticket in Town! A Must See" 'BEST MAGIC SHOW, I've seen in ages...and I hate Magic! - Carol Butz, Belair, Maryland.

'MagicLive!...is Hip-Comedy Entertainment, Adam is the ultimate Modern Magician' - Jacque Polak, CBS-TV. Steinfeld sophisticated card-sharp street magic, mixed with grand theater illusions is a visual feast...this will be the highlight of your vacation. -Al Blanchard, mystery novelist, Boston, MA.

Steinfeld's, comedy magician, likable on-stage personality, comic interactive-wit, and amazing magic, mixed with his dream-like theatre-of-

illusions, is a sensory overload of the imagination, along with his lovely dancers...a treat for the entire family.

### SEE IT LIVE! On-Stage!

"It's obvious Adam's real passion is performing in front of a live audience, as his charisma and charm create an unforgettable show!" Steinfeld is a 'Master of Magic', he invents many of his own Las Vegas illusions that are designed in England, fabricated in Vegas, and travels with him on tour, in a explosion of amazing fun.

**THE MUST-SEE SHOW - YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!** AROUND THE WORLD AND BACK, Adam Steinfeld: 'MAGIC LIVE!', from Monte Carlo, Hong Kong, Orlando, Miami Beach, Biloxi, Boston, San Juan, New York, Aruba to Vegas, it's the coolest show in town, taking up where Houdini left off." **MAGIC - GRANDILLUSION - COMEDY**



### IF YOU GO

What: Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions show  
Where: Westin - Aruba, palm beach (high-rise area)  
Who: starring, comedy illusionist, Adam Steinfeld  
ShowTime: 9:00 pm, nightly, (7 days a week) theater opens at 8:30pm  
Tickets: at the door, MagicLive box office (hotel lobby), or Westin-aruba concierges desk  
Box office opens at 7:30pm nightly  
Price: \$19.95 under 15, \$29.95 adults  
Group Sales: 561-1090  
ALL AGES APPROPRIATE



# The French Steakhouse delivers dining under the stars



Eagle Beach – The French Steakhouse at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa prides itself on the elegant dining experience it offers patrons. Reminiscent of a 1950s French café, the fully air-conditioned indoor dining room delights diners with its sparkling china, crisp linen, interesting bread baskets, and hand-painted tiles bordering the walls. A gracious staff, colossal desserts, and live jazz performed by Eddy Samson on piano add the perfect touches.

Yet recently the idea of adding a garden spot to the existing blueprint began to sprout in the creative mind of Executive Chef George Hoek, and he immediately recruited the landscapers to create the intimate, lovely setting. Now patrons have another charming dining option at the French Steakhouse—a tropical alfresco courtyard featuring delicious

cuisine under the stars. Diners can choose from the restaurant's famed "Ooh-La-La" menu offerings, including creative appetizers, soups, salads, seafood dishes, poultry, and the pièce de résistance—South American and USDA beef specialties.

Among other popular appetizers, the chef's Tropical Crab Cakes with pineapple-mango salsa and the Teriyaki-Glazed Seared Duck Breast served with garden greens and balsamic dressing are real crowd-pleasers. The French Onion Soup is true to the restaurant's roots while the Honey-Glazed Salmon Salad winks at the exotic East with a sweet soy dressing.

Seafood dishes range from the fresh Catch of the Day, prepared according to preference, to the amazingly decadent Caribbean Stuffed Shrimp with Crabmeat and Bacon. The tequila and sweet-chili glaze lends

the jumbo shrimp a pure taste of heaven! Light eaters will find the Jerk-Curried Chicken Skewers and the Lemon-Herb Broiled Chicken very satisfying while meat-lovers should opt for the restaurant's famous South American Certified Beef Churrasco or a juicy USDA beef selection such as the Charcoal NY Sirloin Steak or the Grilled Filet Mignon. Hungrier patrons will appreciate the Ambassador's 5-Course Menu featuring the run of the regular menu's highlights for just \$34.95 per person.

The French Steakhouse at Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa offers a truly unique dining experience—indoor or out—7 days a week from 5:30 PM to 11 PM. For more information, please visit <http://www.manchebo.com/steakhouse/>

## Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar reinvents beach cuisine

Eagle Beach – Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa is widely recognized as the home of beach cuisine. Executive Chef George Hoek and his culinary team serve a sun-splashed menu on the oceanfront terrace, raising the restaurant to must-try status. Inspired by American, Mexican, Thai, Jamaican, Cuban, Greek, and Mediterranean kitchens, the menu lists favorite international dishes all served with a tropical, Caribbean flair.

Patrons can choose from a variety of tasty starters, like Wings on Fire and the Fiesta Snack Platter. Pega Pega's Sun-Sational Salads—including the Thai Chicken Salad and the Caribbean



Fruit Symphony—provide a light lunch alternative. From the sandwich board come the Cuban-Pressed Chicken Sandwich, the Grilled Grouper Reuben Sandwich, the Cudarebo Fish Taco, and the Philly Steak Sandwich. Mid-day platters also include vegetarian options and a variety of oversized beef burgers.

Pega Pega's tropical & frozen cocktail list leaves nothing

out. A wide range of frosty beverages—from daiquiris, coladas, margaritas, and fruit-ice-cream smoothies to specialty blends like the Yellow Bird, Sex on the Beach, and the Cabuya—pretty much guarantees the perfect refreshing addition to lunch. A daily happy hour featuring live music is a great way to watch the sunset and kick off the evening.

Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar is open on fabulous Eagle Beach every day from noon to 5 PM for lunch and from 11 AM to 11 PM for drinks. Patrons are cordially welcomed to enjoy the unrivaled views, caring service, and relaxed atmosphere of one of Aruba's oldest beach bars.



## Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano introduces Menu Turistico



Eagle Beach -- Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano, located at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa in the heart of the low-rise hotel area, delivers authentic Mediterranean flavors at a reasonable price in a charming alfresco poolside setting.

The restaurant has just introduced Menu Turistico, a 3-course dinner featuring an appetizer, main course, and dessert for just \$19.95 per person, plus 15% service charge.

Patrons may choose between homemade soup and Caesar salad for the starter; between Fettuccini Alfredo, Lasagna Casarecia, Spaghetti alla Bolognese, and any favorite pizza for the main course; and between tiramisu, cheesecake, and ice cream for the sweet finale.

Of course, the regular menu

continues to offer delicious antipasto and salads, like the Calamari Fritti and the Insalati Bistro; hearty Italian soups; fresh fish dishes, including Salmone Affogato in Bianco; pasta dishes, like the Tortellini alla Gorgonzola; pizzas; meat dishes, like the Fileto Di Bue alla Castellana; decadent desserts, such as the Cream-Filled Cannoli; flavorful coffees; and the finest Italian wines.

Executive Chef George Hoek is the resort's much-appreciated culinary expert. He was the recent recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Shoco Award, presented by the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association in collaboration with the Digicel Group. The award is a national award of excellence and Aruba's top professional decoration in the hospitality industry.

Open 7 days a week for breakfast and dinner, Giorgio's makes authentic Italian cuisine a reality on Aruba. Patrons are cordially invited to bring a healthy appetite.



# Administrative Assistants Honored at Aquarius



ORANJESTAD — The Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino hosted two appreciation lunch parties on Thursday and Friday toasting to the health and wellbeing of Aruba's Administrative Professionals, says Mildred Theijssen, Sales & Marketing Coordinator. On the list of invitees, the support staff of many of Renaissance's industry partners booking rooms, meals and functions into the hospitality complex on behalf of major local companies such as Colombian Emeralds International, Aruba Bank, Deloitte, KPMG, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Valero Refinery, Gandelman Jewelers, Aruba Trading, Setar, RBTT, CMB and much more. Lunch at Aquarius featured its spectacular spread with a rich and varied choice of salads, tossed to order pasta, main dishes, and desserts, in a festive and gracious ambiance, in gratitude for guests' loyalty.







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Noord	587-0009
Sta. Cruz	585-4710
Savaneta	584-7000
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Polis	100
Brandweer	115
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Tipline di Polis	11141
Hospital	587-4300

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Warda Polis	582-4000
BGD Oranjestad	582-8877

## San Nicolas

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Warda Polis	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

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# Spanish hospital claims 1st full-face transplant



In this combo of computer-generated images released by the Vall d'Hebron Hospital in Barcelona, Spain on Friday, April 23, 2010, the various steps undertaken to perform a full-face transplant on a young male patient in late March 2010 are graphically illustrated. The hospital in Spain says it has carried out the world's first full-face transplant, giving a young man who lost his in an accident a new nose, skin, jaws, cheekbones, teeth and other features.

(AP Photo/Vall d'Hebron Hospital)

By DANIEL WOOLLS,  
Associated Press Writer

MADRID—A team of surgeons has carried out the world's first full-face transplant on a young Spanish farmer unable to breathe or eat on his own since accidentally shooting himself in the face five years ago.

It was the most extensive operation yet and the 11th known face transplant worldwide.

During the 24-hour surgery, doctors lifted an entire face, including jaw, nose,

cheekbones, muscles, teeth and eyelids, and placed it masklike onto the man, Dr. Joan Pere Barret told The Associated Press on Friday. Transplant experts hailed the surgery, carried out late last month at Barcelona's Vall d'Hebron Hospital, as a significant advance.

"It is a breakthrough. They are pushing the envelope and I am very happy for them," said Dr. Thomas Romo, chief of facial and reconstructive surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York.

The Spanish patient, who was not identified, now has a completely new face from his hairline down and only one visible scar, which looks like a wrinkle running across his neck, said Barret, who headed the 30-member surgical team. The man cannot yet speak, eat or smile, but he can see and swallow saliva, the surgeon said. He is expected to be able to eat and breathe on his own in about a week.

"If you look him in the face, you see a normal person," Barret said. "He sits up, he

walks in his hospital room and he watches television."

Before the transplant, the 30-year-old patient had had nine surgeries and could only breathe with the help of a ventilator and get nourishment from a feeding tube. He also had problems speaking.

The 2005 accident, in which he shot himself with a shotgun, essentially destroyed his face from the eye sockets down, although his eyes and eyesight were unaffected.

During the daylong operation, Barret said his team cut off the donor's face below the eye sockets and attached the bone structure along with muscles and nerves to the recipient "in one piece."

"Imagine a skull. It is as if with a saw, we cut everything just below the upper part of the eye sockets, as if we were sawing all that," he said. Then, "everything attached to the mask is placed on the recipient."

"It is a little bit like the movie with John Travolta and Nicolas Cage," the surgeon said, referring to the 1997 thriller "Face/Off", in which the face of the character played by Cage is grafted onto the Travolta character's skull in an identity switch.

Face transplants in the real world have gained acceptance since the first partial transplant almost five years ago in France. Patients don't look like the dead people whose skin and facial features they now live with. And skeptical bioethicists and doctors groups have warmed to the idea for patients who have tried reconstructive surgery with little success.

There have been 10 partial transplants worldwide, including in the United States, China and elsewhere in Spain, but this is the first full face transplant, Barret said.

The Spanish operation is similar to a near-total face transplant carried out by a team led by Dr. Maria Siemionow in 2008 in Cleveland, on a woman who was also shot in the face.

But the Spanish case "seems to us to be more complex," said

Neil Huband, a spokesman for the UK Facial Transplantation Research Team, based at the Royal Free Hospital in London.

Barret would give no details about the donor except to say that doctors try to choose donors of similar weight, height, facial measurements and skin tone as the recipient. As in earlier operations, the Spanish patient had undergone psychiatric tests to determine if he would be able to confront having a totally new face, the hospital said.

Still, rejection is a possibility whenever someone receives an organ or cells from someone else because the body regards this as foreign tissue. Rejection, which can be life-threatening, can come on suddenly, within days or weeks of the operation, or occur years later.

Romo said the patient and doctors are certainly euphoric now but the patient is only beginning to recover and even three years from now his body could reject the face.

"How do you get a patient psychologically ready for that? I think that is a concern that I don't think anybody has dealt with yet," he said.

Unlike operations involving vital organs like hearts and livers, transplants of faces or hands are done to improve quality of life — not extend it. Recipients run the risk of deadly complications and must take immune-suppressing drugs for the rest of their lives to prevent organ rejection, raising their odds of cancer and many other problems.

Still, surgeons say most recipients believe the risk is worth it.

"Absolutely, without a doubt," said Dr. John Barker, director of plastic surgery research at the University of Louisville in Kentucky, of his dealing with hand transplant patients there. He said surveys his team has done of more than 500 people — including facially disfigured people, surgeons and amputees — give the same result. "It is yes. The risk is worth the benefit."

## Omega 3s may help cut colon cancer risk

People who eat plenty of fish oil and other omega-3 fatty acids could cut their risk of colon cancer, new research hints.

Studies in animals and a couple of small trials in people suggest that fish oil supplementation can fight inflammation and may have cancer-fighting properties, Dr. Sangmi Kim of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, and colleagues note. But so far studies looking at the diets of larger groups of people have had equivocal results.

To investigate further, Kim and colleagues examined the relationship between polyunsaturated fatty acid intake and bowel cancer risk in 1,503 whites (including 716 colon cancer patients and 787 healthy controls) and 369 African Americans (213 with colon cancer, 156 controls).

Among whites, the researchers found, those in the top fourth based on their omega-3 consumption had half the risk of colon cancer compared to those in the bottom fourth.

When the researchers looked separately at the two main fatty acids contained in fish oil -- eicosapentaenoic acids and docosahexaenoic

acids -- they found risk also fell with increasing intake.

When the researchers looked at whites and blacks together, they also found a reduced risk of colon cancer with increasing omega 3 intake; separate analysis of the black study participants didn't find this relationship.

They also found that people who consumed more omega-6 fatty acids in relation to omega-3s were more likely to have colon cancer, although omega-6 intake in and of itself didn't affect risk.

In addition to fish oils, omega-3 fatty acid sources include seed oils, such as walnut oil and flax-seed oils, and leafy green vegetables. People in the US typically eat more omega-6 fatty acids than omega-3s; top sources include palm oil, soybean oil, and sunflower oil.

The researchers also found an "unexpected" association between higher omega-3 intake and colon cancer in African-Americans, but urged caution in interpreting this finding, which they say "may have been due to chance." Nevertheless, they conclude, "whether the possible benefit from this dietary modification varies by race warrants further evaluation." □



# Nicaragua defiende captura de pescadores colombianos

MANAGUA (Reuters) - Nicaragua dijo el sábado que la captura de un pesquero colombiano la realizó en aguas bajo su jurisdicción, después de que Colombia pidió aclarar si el incidente se había realizado en una zona del Mar Caribe en disputa entre los dos países.

El ministro de Defensa de Colombia, Gabriel Silva, dijo el viernes que Nicaragua interceptó y remolcó hacia su territorio un pesquero colombiano en la zona de Serranilla, un área que actualmente está en litigio fronterizo entre ambos países.

Pero el sábado la fuerza naval de Nicaragua informó que la captura del pesquero "Laura Any", con 23 tripulantes colombianos, se realizó al noreste de Cabo Gracias a Dios, una zona en la que también detuvieron a otra embarcación con otros cinco colombianos.

"Ambas embarcaciones faenaban en aguas nicaragüenses (...) nosotros patrullamos nuestras aguas y son aguas nicaragüenses donde realizamos la captura de estas embarcaciones", dijo Roger González, jefe de la fuerza naval, en rueda de prensa.

Además de los barcos, la fuerza naval dijo que había detenido el jueves otras dos lanchas colombianas que pescaban sin permiso en aguas cercanas a Corn Island, una isla turística en el Caribe de Nicaragua.

Los pescadores fueron puestos a disposición de las autoridades de migración, que procederán a su deportación a Colombia.

Las grandes embarcaciones capturadas partieron de la isla de San Andrés, bajo dominio de Colombia pero que es reclamada por Nicaragua en la Corte Internacional de Justicia de La Haya, junto con otras islas y territorio marítimo en el Caribe.

La corte de La Haya aún no ha emitido sentencia sobre la querrela iniciada por Nicaragua, que desconoce un tratado de 1928 que trasladó el dominio de San Andrés a Colombia y que aduce fue forzado a firmar porque estaba bajo ocupación militar de Estados Unidos. □

Imagen de archivo del ministro de Defensa de Colombia, Gabriel Silva, durante una conferencia en Bogotá. Ene 27 2010. REUTERS/Archivo/Cortesía



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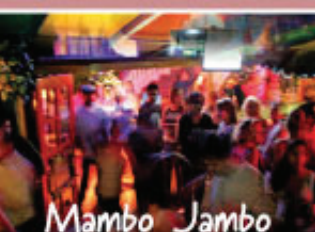
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